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STRANGE.

Methuselah lived to be
Nine hundred sixty and nine.
And he never knew of the frets
That come
In such lives as yours and mine.
Unvaccinated, he,
He kept his appendix, too.
And he never thought of the little germs
That in food and water grew.
Methuselah did not know
Of the hills that make us sad.
And the chances are it was just
As well—
He'd have died young if he had.
—Chicago Post.

THE UPPER RIVER RIGHTS.

Through a resolution just adopted by the people at Irrigon the following sentiment is expressed:

"We are in nowise opposed to the waterusers on the upper river but invite them to store and use all the water that they possibly can, all of which will ultimately rebound to the benefit of the lower river."

A broad view of the matter and if this sentiment had only prevailed with Oliver P. Morton and other officials who have done preliminary work on the west extension there would be no opposition to the extension in this "neck of the woods."

The people on the upper river are justly entitled to all the water they can use. Settlers on Birch creek, McKay and the Umatilla have been here for years and their welfare should be protected. If they can use water to irrigate their lands, whether it be stored water or running water they should be allowed to use it provided they make beneficial use within a reasonable time. The aim of the reclamation act is to bring land under irrigation and settlement. It should be as pleasing to the government to have water used to irrigate lands adjoining Birch creek as to have it used upon desert lands in western Umatilla county and in northern Morrow.

But the government, through Oliver P. Morton, or whoever is responsible for the adjudication suit, has not taken such a liberal course. Apparently Mr. Morton has proceeded on the theory it was not up to him to treat up-river settlers fairly but that he should get everything possible away from them. In the adjudication suit he bears down too hard upon the settlers and it is but natural they are complaining. Furthermore there are reasons for believing that the reclamation lawyers have not been giving due consideration to the rights of the Indians upon the Umatilla reservation. They seem to be going upon the theory that the Indians have no rights. Yet at the same time John McCourt, U. S. attorney, has ruled the local Indians may use water upon their allotments. It is a strange status of affairs.

The East Oregonian is not fighting the west extension, but this paper is insisting that if the extension is carried out it should be upon such a basis that the rights and welfare of the people on the upper river, red-men and white, be fully and honestly protected. The arrangements for the extension should be such that if there be any shortage of water the loss shall fall upon the land under the extension and shall not be borne by the

people in this vicinity. It is the only equitable course and for the government to go upon any other policy will mean gross discrimination against upper river people for the benefit of those holding land under the proposed extension.

GAYNOR AND THE PRESS.

Mayor Gaynor of New York has been asked by the New York Globe to set forth his idea as to how a newspaper should be conducted. The mayor replies with an extended statement in which he expresses himself very pointedly. Here are some of the sentiments expressed:
"First of all, a newspaper should show that there is a gentleman in control of it, and not a loafer or a blackguard. That is the first essential of a newspaper. Why should a newspaper be a ruffian? If the proprietor is a ruffian, of course it is to be a ruffian. If he runs to serve his own purposes and ambitions merely, you may expect anything of him. He hides behind it for his own selfish purposes.

"A newspaper ought to be true. Its motives should be fair. It should try to do the right. Its pride should be to have a good influence.
"The rule now seems to be the larger the circulation the less the influence. A newspaper that goes into the household is the one which has the influence. I would rather have the good will and aid of a newspaper with a circulation of only 30,000 if it is taken home and read by the family, than that of one with a circulation of 1,000,000, if it be only looked at and thrown in the gutter."

Such statements are well founded and will be applauded by the press as well as laymen. It is true a paper cannot well be better than the man who publishes it. If a publisher is a scyster his paper will exhibit such tendencies; if he is a dog, his newspaper will be a dog.

From further remarks of the mayor it is quite evident he finds few desirable newspapers in New York. They are monstrosities in his view and he grills them unmercifully. But of course he is looking only at the harm they do and not at the good they accomplish. Were the newspapers of Gotham to reply in kind they might well say it is also exceedingly difficult to find good mayors. They could point out that Gaynor himself is advertised as the first decent mayor New York has had in a decade and that there are many who look upon him with distrust.

That Commercial club meeting on December 12 promises to be a lively affair and it may be necessary to have separate rooms in which to keep the west end people who will be here to represent the various sides of the controversy.

The man from Madrid seems to have an abundance of "relatives" in this section of the country.

Ten councilmen to elect hereafter.

WHY NOT?

The recent decisions of the supreme court, the presidential vetoes, and the constant quashing of statutes as unconstitutional by the courts, lend force to the suggestion made by a distinguished member of the bar that there ought to be a commission on statutory interpretation, to pass on all public bills before they are enacted into law.

At present our law-making is not only cumbersome, but unscientific. The number of bills introduced into our legislatures is appalling. Their range is bewildering, and their proposals run the whole gamut of reform.

They are initiated by every sort of legislative crank put into legal form by law clerks, amended past recognition, and either buried in committee pigeonholes or sent to a bewildered executive to sign or veto while you wait.

It is no wonder that the courts kill or nullify so much of our legislative and technical grounds, yet there is a vast amount of reason for their attitude in the matter.

Our law-makers are not all trained lawyers. They have no skill in law-making, and are at the mercy of the legal lobby which watches all reform legislation with a keenness born of self-protection. Hence so many "snakes" that creep into bills in committee and hibernate there until the courts smoke the mout, all too late to do any good.

A non-partisan, half-legal, half-lay commission on statutory interpretation would be a protection to real reform. It would get rid of possible ambiguities in the language of proposed legislative enactments, would interpret fairly the intention of their framers, and forecast their probable results when submitted to the acid test of actual enforcement.

The commission could scotch, if not kill, much useless and vicious legislation, partially clarify and codify current legislation; remove much of it from partisan contention; probably make legislative law more respected than it is at present; and save the judiciary from the necessity of delivering such judgments as to make the small daily shadow on their otherwise peaceful horizon—Frederic B. Hoagius in December Lippincott's.

Merrily Sound.

"Do you consider him a man of sound sense?"
"Well, ye—modified a bit."
"Modified? What do you mean?"
"Just strike out the sense and you'll have my opinion of him."

IDENTIFIED.

In a little sequestered country town where the court of justice is over the general store, and where the judge is an old, grizzled farmer, thoroughly familiar with pitching hay and milking cows, but having a very limited knowledge of the law, the prisoner had pleaded "not guilty" to a charge of burglary. The lawyer for the prosecution was endeavoring to show the court that the accused man was of low character.

"What were you doing the night before the robbery?" he questioned severely.

"I was playin' penechie with Jed Parker and another fellow" answered the prisoner evasively.

"Ah, I thought so," shouted the lawyer triumphantly. "Playing cards with that loafer Jed Parker! Gambling and in bad company! But you mention a third party, sir. Who was the other good-for-nothing?"

The prisoner hesitated.
"Answer me!" bellowed the lawyer.
"Wa-al, sir, if you must know," said the accused, "it was the Judge here."—Judge's Library.

RECIPE FOR LONGEVITY.

Unless there have been mistakes in preparing the formula, you can live to the age of ninety-five years, if such is your desire. At least that claim is made by a school of self preservation recently organized in Chicago, the purpose of which is to promote longevity.

This school has prepared a course of longevity based upon the experience of a large number of persons who have reached the age of ninety-five, and this instruction is to be imparted to those who desire it. The course is designed to promote sound ideals of life and living.

The school proposes to publish biennially a directory of all persons in the country who have attained the age of ninety-five years. How many such would you say there are in the United States? The school of self-preservation places the number at about 8000.

CONVENIENT FOR CHILEANS.

It is pleasing to learn, from the consular reports published by the state department, that the parcel post business of Chile with the United States is very rapidly increasing. Chile sent and received 37,798 packages by

international parcels post in 1910, very many of which went to or came from the United States.

As only a very few of these packages—those weighing not more than four pounds—could have been sent by mail by one citizen of the United States to another within our borders, it will be seen that there is at least one particular in which a Chilean is better off in the United States than an American citizen is.

In fact, the American citizen does not seem to have very many privileges, on his own soil, as compared

with those of foreign countries. Russian officials are permitted to catechize American citizens in New York with regard to their religion—a thing which no American official can do. And foreign governments are permitted to operate a parcels post wagon on the streets of New York, while the American government refuses to perform that service for its own people.

It begins to look as if most of the people connected with the McNamara case were going crazy.



PHILLIP D. ARMOUR, the great multimillionaire Meat King first saved one hundred dollars from his earnings on the farm. He went from New York to California, there he got \$5.00 a day for digging ditches. He still SAVED—saved a few thousand dollars. The first saving was the seed from which his vast fortune grew.

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What About Christmas?

MAY we help you solve the problem and put you in the way of doing your Christmas shopping with pleasure, satisfaction and economy? We take the liberty of making a suggestion regarding the best time to do your shopping and earnestly urge you to do it AT ONCE. Come early while the pick is the choicest, avoid the crowd and make your selections at leisure and in comfort, from a full and complete assortment.

Our stock is known to comprise high-class jewelry and our prices are less than those found in the majority of high-grade stores. First-class engraving free on all articles purchased here.

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Diamond and Emerald rings \$15 to \$100
Diamond and Solitaire Earrings, a pair \$15 to \$600
Fancy Diamond Rings \$20 to \$750
Diamond Pendants \$10 to \$100
Diamond Stickpins \$6.00 to \$150
Diamond Studs \$25 to \$300
Diamond Solitaire Rings \$10 to \$800
Bracelets \$2.00 to \$50
Combs \$1.00 to \$25
Purses \$2.50 to \$45
Link Buttons 75c to \$100
Chains \$1.00 to \$40
Locketts \$1.50 to \$45
Watches \$4.50 to \$150
Toilet Sets \$6.00 to \$75
Umbrellas \$2.50 to \$35
Scarf Pins 75c to \$50

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